

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
	:	FINAL ORDER
	:	WITHDRAWING
LOUIS HERMER M. TRINIDAD, R.N.	:	PROVISIONAL
License # 26NR08743300	:	ORDER OF
	:	DISCIPLINE
	:	
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE	:	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Louis Hermer M. Trinidad ("Respondent") is a Registered Professional Nurse in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. On or about March 30, 2013, Respondent completed and submitted an online biennial renewal application which asked whether Respondent would have "completed the required continuing education credits by May 31, 2013," referring to the biennial

renewal period of June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2013. Respondent answered "yes" and certified that answer by submitting the online application.

3. On or about December 6, 2013, Respondent was interviewed and was requested to provide documentation of continuing education that he had completed. Respondent provided documentation of completing the following hours of continuing education:

31.4 hours within June 1, 2009 - May 31, 2011;

9.5 hours within June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2013; and

0 hours within June 1, 2013 - May 31, 2015.

3. On or about April 3, 2015, Respondent completed and submitted an online biennial renewal application which asked whether Respondent would have "completed the required continuing education credits by May 31, 2015," referring to the biennial renewal period of June 1, 2013 - May 31, 2015. Respondent was also asked whether he completed the required one hour course on Organ and Tissue Donation. Respondent answered "yes" to both questions and certified the answers by submitting the online application.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), nurses are required to complete a minimum of thirty (30) hours of continuing education

during the preceding biennial period in order to renew their licenses. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(f), nurses are required to maintain documentation of completion of continuing education for a period of four years after completion, and shall submit such documentation to the Board upon request.

Respondent failed to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Board, that Respondent completed the continuing education credits required for renewal during the biennial period of June 1, 2011 to May 31, 2013. The Board therefore finds Respondent in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b) and 13:37-5.3(f), which in turn subjects Respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h). Respondent may carry over 1.4 hours from the June 1, 2009 - May 31, 2011 biennial period to the June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2013 biennial period giving him a total of 10.9 hours completed. Respondent failed to demonstrate the completion of 19.1 hours of continuing education timely completed within the June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2013 biennial period.

Respondent's use of dishonesty and misrepresentation during the license renewal process in falsifying his continuing education information constitutes a violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b), subjecting Respondent to sanctions.

DISCUSSION

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a

Provisional Order of Discipline seeking a suspension, reprimand, and a two hundred and fifty dollar (\$250) civil penalty was entered on June 2, 2015. Copies were served upon Respondent via regular and certified mail. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth day following entry unless Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated findings of fact and conclusions of law by setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting Respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order of Discipline and provided acceptable documentation of timely completion of all required continuing education for the June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2013 and June 1, 2013 - May 31, 2015 biennial renewal periods. Respondent was able to carry over excess hours earned in the June 1, 2009 - May 31, 2011 biennial period and obtained additional documentation for other courses that he had timely completed within the two biennial periods.

The Board reviewed Respondent's submissions and determined that further proceedings were not necessary and that no material discrepancies had been raised. Respondent demonstrated, to the

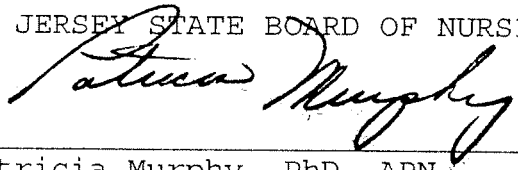
satisfaction of the Board, that she timely completed the required continuing education.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 12th day of November, 2015,
ORDERED that:

1. The Provisional Order of Discipline filed on June 2, 2015 is hereby withdrawn in its entirety.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: _____


Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President